

EA193.23 Trees in the Drift

Within the trees at the end of the drift nearest the perimeter road there are some cables belonging to BT Openreach. There is a line of 5 posts and 3 cables strung along them. The trees and cables are now intertwined. Indeed, the trees appear to be supporting the cables in some places and pulling them down in others.

Our tree works contractor is concerned about doing work in this area as they don't want to damage the cables. Also, the Drift is a TPO area and as such has limitations as to what the Parish Council can do with regard to tree works. The cables only add to the possible problems of working in this area.

BT Openreach have been contacted and were asked about the cables and whether they could be removed or put underground. They responded that "Openreach engineer cannot trim down the trees and it needs to be done by the landowner. To get the cables removed please send email to - network.rearrangement@openreach.co.uk."

Network rearrangement were then contacted. On a phone call they explained that they would not do anything with the trees, that was up to the landowner. To get the cables moved a survey would need to be done before any work would be carried out. The survey and any further work would need to be paid for by the landowner.

This call was followed up in an email:

As explained Survey costs are estimated and based upon how long it takes to complete your surveying activity and includes all associated administration work. Our average survey costs are £1,000 but please remember this is an average.

The costs for surveying will vary depending on the amount of time we've had to spend on the survey.

If you're happy to progress please respond with your authorisation and we'll pass your project to one of our network rearrangement engineering professionals, who'll be in touch within 20 working days to provide you a cost for a survey to be completed.

Once payment has been received, a survey will be conducted within 25 working days. To progress your enquiry, your authorisation to proceed is required. If you'd like to go ahead, please get in touch by responding to this email

